EXHIBIT B

ABBOTT LABORATORIES RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John R. Hackett, Jr. et al.

Serial No.: 08/911,824

Filed: August 15, 1997

Novel Antigen Constructs Useful in the Detection and Differentiation of Antibodies to HIV

Attorney Docket No.: 6165.US.01

Examiner:

Myron G. Hill

1648 Group Art Unit: Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 CFR \$1.8(a): I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via facsimile, said transmission to be completed before midnight Eastern time on the date shown below, addressed to the following recipient:

Commissioner for Patents Attn: Examiner Myron G. Hill Group Art Unit: 1649 Washington, D.C. 20231

Recipient Telefax Number: (703)872-9307 Kimberly

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the application identified above, Applicants hereby petition the Assistant Commissioner for Patents to extend the period for response in connection with the Notice of Appeal filed on August 15, 2002 for one month from October 15, 2002 to November 15, 2002.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 01-0025 in the amount of \$110.00 for the associated extension fee. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited, respectively, to the above numbered deposit account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES

Telephone: (847) 938-3137

Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted, J. Hackett, Jr. et

Lisa V. Mueller Registration No. 38, for Dianne Casuto Registration No. 40, 23

Attorney for Applicants